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9	BEFO	RE THE			
10	CALIFORNIA GAMBLING CONTROL COMMISSION				
11					
12	STATE OF CALIFORNIA				
	T d Nov. Cd Co	1			
13	In the Matter of the Statement of Reasons for Denial of Application for a Third-Party	BGC Case No. BGC-HQ2018-00047SL			
14	Proposition Player Services License for:	CGCC Case No: CGCC-2018-0726-10Aiv			
15	DIANA PESAY PLONG a.k.a.: Ratana Pesay Hoelscher and	STATEMENT OF REASONS			
16	Ratana Pesav Plong	STATE WIE IVI OF REPROSINS			
17					
18	Respondent.				
19					
20					
21	Complainant alleges as follows:	· ·			
22		TIES			
23	1. Stephanie K. Shimazu (Complainant) brings this Statement of Reasons solely in her			
24	official capacity as Director of the California De	partment of Justice, Bureau of Gambling Contro			
25	(Bureau).				
26	2. On May 22, 2017, the Bureau receiv	ed an Application for Third-Party Proposition			
27	Player Services License for Supervisor, Player or Other Employee, and a Level I Supplemental				
28	Information, both dated May 9, 2017 (collectively, Application), from Diana Pesay Plong, also				
		1			

known as: Ratana Pesay Hoelscher and Ratana Pesay Plong (Respondent), to allow for her employment as a third-party proposition player (prop-player) for Blackstone Gaming, LLC (Blackstone), a registered third-party proposition player services provider, registration number TPPP-000119.¹

- 3. Respondent has been employed as a prop-player by Blackstone since January 2017. On or about December 13, 2016, the California Gambling Control Commission (Commission) issued Respondent a registration, number TPPL-018871, as a prop-player for this employment. Respondent's registration currently expires on September 30, 2020.
 - 4. Prior to Blackstone, Respondent was employed as a prop-player, as follows:
- a. From August 2016 to January 2017, she was employed as a prop-player, registration number TPPL-018251, for PT Gaming, LLC;²
- b. From April 2006 to September 2013, she was employed as a prop-player, registration number and license number TPPL-002901, for Certified Network M., Inc.; and
- c. From about June 2004 to at least April 2006, she was employed as a prop-player, registration number TPPL-001102, for Certified Players, Inc.³
- 5. On or about May 24, 2018, the Bureau submitted a Third-Party Player Background Investigation Report to the Commission, in which it recommended that Respondent's Application be denied.

¹ Respondent is required to convert her registration to a license and submit an application for such licensure pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 4, sections 12205.1 and 12218, because Blackstone was summoned on April 20, 2017, to submit an application to convert its registration to a license.

² From September 2013 to January 2017, Respondent stated that she was unemployed and receiving disability and unemployment benefits.

³ The records regarding registration number TPPL-001102 are imprecise. It appears the registration was issued on June 1, 2004 and was cancelled on May 1, 2006, when her employment with Certified Players, Inc. ended and she then began her employment with Certified Network M., Inc. However, the Licensing Information System indicates that registration number TPPL-001102 was active until June 15, 2008, when it expired.

- 6. At its July 26, 2018, meeting, the Commission referred consideration of Respondent's Application to an evidentiary hearing, which is to be held pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 4, section 12060.⁴
- 7. On or about August 10, 2018, Respondent submitted a Notice of Defense, which is dated August 8, 2018.

BURDEN OF PROOF

8. Respondent has the burden of proving her qualifications to receive a license. (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 19856, subd. (a).)

FIRST CAUSE FOR DENIAL

(Misdemeanor Convictions)

9. Respondent's Application is subject to denial and her registration is subject to revocation or cancellation in that on or about August 23, 2007, Respondent was convicted of violating Vehicle Code section 23152, subdivision (a), driving under the influence with a blood alcohol level of .08 percent or higher,⁵ a misdemeanor, in the case of *People v. Diana Pesay Plong* (Sup. Ct. Los Angeles County, 2007, No. 7LT01062).

(Bus. & Prof. Code, §§ 19856 & 19857 subds. (a) & (b); Cal. Code. Regs., tit. 4, §§ 12200.18, subd. (a), 12205 & 12218.11, subds. (e) [mandatory denial] & (j) [mandatory denial].)

SECOND CAUSE FOR DENIAL

(Failure to Disclose Misdemeanor Conviction)

10. Respondent's Application is subject to denial and her registration subject to revocation or cancellation, in that Respondent, under penalty of perjury, in response to question (2), in Section 4. Criminal History Information, of the Level I Supplemental Information, falsely stated that she had not been convicted of a misdemeanor within 10 years prior to her filing her Application. In fact, as noted in paragraph 9 above and incorporated herein by reference, on or

⁴ The statutes and regulations applicable to this Statement of Reasons are quoted in pertinent part in Appendix A.

⁵ Respondent's blood alcohol level was found to be 0.15 percent.

about August 23, 2007, Respondent was convicted of a misdemeanor, which occurred within the 10-year period prior to her filing her Application on May 22, 2017.

11. As a factor in aggravation, despite having been specifically instructed by the Bureau on March 12, 2011, during the review of her license application to convert her then registration, number TPPL-002901, to a license, that she was required to disclose this conviction in response to question (2), in Section 4. Criminal History Information, of the Level I Supplemental Information; nevertheless, Respondent, under penalty of perjury, chose again not to disclose her conviction in her current Application.

(Bus. & Prof. Code, §§ 19856, 19857, subds. (a) & (b), 19859, subds. (a) [mandatory denial] & (b) [mandatory denial] & 19866; Cal. Code. Regs., tit. 4, §§ 12200.18, subds. (a), (b) & (f), 12205 & 12218.11, subds. (e) [mandatory denial], (f) [mandatory denial] & (j) [mandatory denial].)

THIRD CAUSE FOR DENIAL

(False or Misleading Statements)

- 12. Respondent's Application is subject to denial and her registration subject to revocation or cancellation, in that Respondent provided false or misleading information to the Bureau regarding her 2007 conviction, which is alleged in paragraph 9 above and incorporated herein by reference. Those false or misleading statements include:
- a. In statements dated June 24, 2017 and August 4, 2017, Respondent professed that she did not disclose her 2007 conviction because it had been dismissed by the court.⁶ Respondent provided neither a specific date for the alleged dismissal, the grounds upon which it was dismissed, nor documentation from the court demonstrating that it was dismissed. The Bureau confirmed that the Los Angeles County Superior Court had not dismissed Respondent's conviction at the time she provided the written statements and, as of May 24, 2018, it still had not been dismissed.

⁶ Even if Respondent's 2007 criminal conviction had been dismissed, question (2), in Section 4. Criminal History Information, of the Level I Supplemental Information, specifically requires the disclosure of misdemeanor convictions within the prior 10-year period, even if the conviction has been dismissed pursuant to Penal Code section 1203.4.

1	b. In her August 4, 2017, statement, Respondent stated that she had consumed only one			
2	"complimentary drink" before striking a parked vehicle while driving on her way home from a			
3	co-worker's birthday party. Because Respondent's blood alcohol level was determined to be 0.15			
4	percent, she had to have consumed more than just one alcoholic beverage.			
5	(Bus. & Prof. Code, §§ 19856, 19857, subds. (a) & (b), 19859, subds. (a) [mandatory denial] &			
6	(b) [mandatory denial] & 19866; Cal. Code. Regs., tit. 4, §§ 12200.18, subds. (a), (b) & (f), 12205			
7	& 12218.11, subds. (e) [mandatory denial], (f) [mandatory denial] & (j) [mandatory denial].)			
8	<u>PRAYER</u>			
9	WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged,			
10	and that following the hearing the Commission issue a decision:			
11	1. Denying Respondent's Application for a third-party proposition player license;			
12	2. Revoking or cancelling Respondent's registration, number TPPL-018871; and			
13	3. Taking such other and further action as the Commission may deem appropriate.			
14				
15 16	Dated: September 14, 2018 Stephanie K. Shimazu, Director			
10	Bureau of Gambling Control California Department of Justice			
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APPENDIX A

JURISDICTION

1. Business and Professions Code section 19811, subdivision (b), provides:

Jurisdiction, including jurisdiction over operation and concentration, and supervision over gambling establishments in this state and over all persons or things having to do with the operation of gambling establishments is vested in the commission.

- 2. Business and Professions Code, section 19823 provides:
 - (a) The responsibilities of the commission include, without limitation, all of the following:
 - (1) Assuring that licenses, approvals, and permits are not issued to, or held by, unqualified or disqualified persons, or by persons are conducted in a manner that is inimical to the public health, safety, or welfare.
 - (2) Assuring that there is no material involvement, directly or indirectly, with a licensed gambling operation, or the ownership or management thereof, by unqualified or disqualified persons, or by persons whose operations are conducted in a manner that is inimical to the public health, safety, or welfare.
 - (b) For the purposes of this section, "unqualified person" means a person who is found to be unqualified pursuant to the criteria set forth in Section 19857, and "disqualified person" means a person who is found to be disqualified pursuant to the criteria set forth in Section 19859.
- 3. Business and Professions Code, section 19824 provides, in part:

The commission shall have all powers necessary and proper to enable it fully and effectually to carry out the policies and purposes of this chapter, [7] including, without limitation, the power to do all of the following:

* * *

(b) For any cause deemed reasonable by the commission, deny any application for a license, permit, or approval provided for in this chapter or regulations adopted pursuant to this chapter, limit, condition, or restrict any license, permit, or approval, or impose any fine upon any person licensed or approved. The commission may

⁷ "Chapter" refers to Business and Professions Code, division 8, chapter 5, (commencing with section 19800), also known as the Gambling Control Act.

1 2	condition, restrict, discipline, or take action against the license of an individual owner endorsed on the license certificate of the gambling enterprise whether or not the commission takes action against the
3	license of the gambling enterprise.
4	***
5	(d) Take actions deemed to be reasonable to ensure that no ineligible, unqualified, disqualified, or unsuitable persons are associated with controlled gambling activities.
6	
7	4. Business and Professions Code, section 19853, subdivision (a), provides, in part:
8	The commission, by regulation or order, may require that the following persons register with the commission, apply for a finding of suitability as defined in subdivision (i) of 19805, or apply for a gambling license:
0	***
1	(2) A we remain who does business on the promises of a
2	(3) Any person who does business on the premises of a licensed gambling establishment.
3	5. Business and Professions Code, section 19870 provides:
4	(a) The commission, after considering the recommendation of the chief ^{18]} and any other testimony and written comments as may be
5	presented at the meeting, or as may have been submitted in writing to the commission prior to the meeting, may either deny the application or grant a license to an applicant who it determines to be qualified to hold
7	the license.
8	(b) When the commission grants an application for a license or approval, the commission may limit or place restrictions thereon as it may deem necessary in the public interest, consistent with the policies
9	described in this chapter.
.0	(c) When an application is denied, the commission shall prepare and file a detailed statement of its reasons for the denial.
1	(d) All proceedings at a meeting of the commission relating to a
2	license application shall be recorded stenographically or by audio or video recording.
23	(e) A decision of the commission denying a license or approval,
24	or imposing any condition or restriction on the grant of a license or approval may be reviewed by petition pursuant to Section 1085 of the
25	Code of Civil Procedure. Section 1094.5 of the Code of Civil Procedure shall not apply to any judicial proceeding described in the
26 27	foregoing sentence, and the court may grant the petition only if the
28	8 "Chief" refers to the Director of the Bureau. (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 19805, subd. (d).)

STATEMENT OF REASONS

1	7	Business and Professions Code section 19984, subdivision (b), provides, in part:
2		The commission shall establish reasonable criteria for, and require
3		the licensure and registration of, any person or entity that provides proposition player services to gambling establishments pursuant to this section, including owners, supervisors, and players The
4 5	3	commission may impose licensing requirements, disclosures, approvals, conditions, or limitations as it deems necessary to protect the integrity of controlled gambling in this state
6	8	California Code of Regulations, title 4, section 12056, subdivision (a) provides, i
7	part:	
8	parti	If the Commission elects to hold an evidentiary hearing, the
9		hearing will be conducted as a GCA hearing under Section 12060, unless the Executive Director or the Commission determines the hearing should be conducted as an APA hearing under Section
10		12058
11	9	California Code of Regulations, title 4, section 12060, provides:
12		(a) If the Executive Director determines it is appropriate, he or
13		she may set an application for consideration at a GCA hearing in advance of a meeting pursuant to Section 12054. The Executive
14		Director shall give notice to the applicant, pursuant to paragraph (2) subsection (c) of Section 12052, to the Office of the Attorney General, and to the Bureau no later than 90 calendar days in advance of the
15		GCA hearing. The Executive Director's determination will be based on information contained in the Bureau's report or other appropriate
16		sources including, without limitation, a request from the Bureau or applicant as well as the Commission's operational considerations. The
17		Commission retains the authority to refer the matter to an APA hearing pursuant to subsection (a) of Section 12056 or hear the matter
18		at a Section 12054 meeting if the Commission deems it appropriate.
19	•	(b) When the Commission has elected to hold a GCA hearing, the Executive Director shall give notice to the applicant, pursuant to
20		paragraph (2) subsection (c) of Section 12052, to the Office of the Attorney General, and to the Bureau no later than 60 calendar days in
21		advance of the GCA hearing.
22		(c) The presiding officer shall have no communication with the
23		Commission or Commission staff upon the merits, or upon information or documents related to the application prior to the avidentiary heaving. The Evecutive Director shall designet a
24		evidentiary hearing. The Executive Director shall designate a presiding officer which shall be:
25	,	(1) A member of the Commission's legal staff; or,
26		(2) An Administrative Law Judge.
27	,	(-)
28		

- (a) Any regular registration issued in accordance with this chapter^[10] shall be subject to cancellation pursuant to this section. A registration shall be cancelled if the Commission determines after a noticed hearing that the registrant is ineligible for registration, has failed in the application for registration to reveal any fact material to the holder's qualification for registration, or has supplied information in the registration application that is untrue or misleading as to a material fact pertaining to the criteria for issuance of registration.

(b) If the Commission finds that any of the circumstances set forth in subsection (a) apply, then the Executive Director shall immediately do all of the following:

(1) Provide written notice to the registrant and the Bureau of the cancellation of the registration and the grounds thereof, and provide written notice of the cancellation to the owner, if the registrant is a supervisor, player, or other employee and to any gambling establishment in which the registrant provides

proposition player services.

(2) Notify the registrant, if an individual, that he or she is required to surrender the registrant's badge to the Commission not

required to surrender the registrant's badge to the Commission not more than ten days following the date that the notice of the cancellation was mailed or such greater time as is authorized by the Executive Director.

12. California Code of Regulations, title 4, section 12205.1, provides:

(a) As expeditiously as possible in light of available program resources, the Bureau shall summon persons registered as primary owners, owners, supervisors, players, and other employees for the purpose of applying for licenses under this chapter. The registration of any registrant that fails or refuses to submit the applicable Application for Third Party Proposition Player Services License for Business Entities and Owners (BGC-433 (Rev. 10/17)) or Application for Third-Party Proposition Player Services License for Supervisors, Players or Other Employees (BGC-434 (Rev. 10/17)), which are hereby incorporated by reference, including any fees to the Bureau within 30 days of receiving a summons shall expire by operation of law on the following day. Prior to and during review of a request to convert a registration to a license, a registration shall remain valid and may be renewed by the registrant as necessary, upon application and approval of renewal of registration as

(b) Any person who became affiliated with a primary owner

following receipt of a summons from the Bureau shall apply for

provided in Section 12203A.

^{. 10 &}quot;Chapter" refers to California Code of Regulations, title 4, division 18, chapter 2.1, section 12200 et seq.

	II .	
1		(d) Nothing in the to divulge to the reque
2	:	any law enforcement a person with assurance
3	:	confidential. Nothing Bureau to divulge any
4		source of information
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6		SPE
7	14.	Business and Profession
8		(a) Any person w receive a state license,
9		protection of the healt the State of California
10		issued a license. The license is
11		(b) An application
12		determination of the apparticipate in, engage
13		(c) In reviewing a
14		consider whether issue safety, or welfare, and
15		public trust that the ga would be issued are from
16		be conducted honestly
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18	15.	Business and Profession
19		No gambling licen information and docum
20		the applicant is all of the
21		(a) A person of go
22		(b) A person who
23	!	reputation, habits, and interest of this state, or
24		controlled gambling, o unfair, or illegal practi
25		controlled gambling, o arrangements incidents
26		(c) A person that provided in this chapte
27	·	provided in this chapte

28

is chapter shall require the Commission or Bureau ester any confidential information received from agency or any information received from any es that the information would be maintained as in this chapter shall require the Commission or information that might reveal the identity of any or jeopardize the safety of any person.

ECIFIC STATUTORY PROVISIONS

- ons Code section 19856 provides:
 - ho the commission determines is qualified to having due consideration for the proper h, safety, and general welfare of the residents of and the declared policy of this state, may be burden of proving his or her qualifications to on the applicant.
 - n to receive a license constitutes a request for a pplicant's general character, integrity, and ability to in, or be associated with, controlled gambling.
 - an application for any license, the commission shall ance of the license is inimical to public health, whether issuance of the license will undermine mbling operations with respect to which the license ee from criminal and dishonest elements and would
- ons Code, section 19857 provides:

se shall be issued unless, based on all of the nents submitted, the commission is satisfied that the following:

- ood character, honesty, and integrity.
- se prior activities, criminal record, if any, associations do not pose a threat to the public r to the effective regulation and control of or create or enhance the dangers of unsuitable, ces, methods, and activities in the conduct of or in the carrying on of the business and financial al thereto.
- is in all other respects qualified to be licensed as

1	19. California Code of Regulations, title 4, section 12218.11, provides, in part:					
2	A requester shall be ineligible for licensing for any of the following causes:					
3 ,	10110Wing causes:					
4						
5	(e) The requester has failed to meet the requirements of Business and Professions Code sections 19856 or 19857.					
6	(f) The requester would be ineligible for a state gambling license under any of the criteria set forth in Business and Professions Code					
7	section 19859, subdivisions (b), (e), or (f).					
8	* * *					
9	(j) The applicant is ineligible based on any other provision of	, d				
10	(j) The applicant is ineligible based on any other provision of law.					
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